

country for anyone to live in, and if a man settles in a marsh he has no one else to blame but himself. The soil generally is a dark loam, with sufficient clay in it to bake by the sun, but it is not a tenacious clay. Taken as a whole, it is as good a soil as any reasonable man could wish for, and is from six inches to three feet in depth. The subsoil is generally of a whitish clay.

are large enough for house-logs, but not for sawing into planks. I firmly believe that when the country becomes settled, by which means prairie fires will become less frequent, timber will grow to much larger dimensions. A few furrows round a farm will prevent the fire spreading. In winter the frost penetrates the ground to a depth of five or six feet, which not only pulverises the soil, but the sub-



STEAMER NORTHWEST AT THE BRANDON LANDING.

The belts of timber will not suffice for fuel for all parts, but seams of good coal have been discovered lately: one where the railway crosses the Saskatchewan river; and this is the one thing the country wanted. In many places the logs

soil also, and makes it porous, and not soft and wet like the heavy soils in England. The low ground and marshes dry up very quickly in July and August after receiving the water from the winter snow and the June rains. In many of the low places a

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